



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: Marble Canyon, Arizona Accident Number: GAA20CA036

Date & Time: October 18, 2019, 14:00 Local Registration: N49PD

Aircraft: Titan TITAN TORNADO II Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

### **Analysis**

The pilot reported that, during the takeoff roll, a "gust came up," and the airplane exited the runway to the right onto sand hummocks, and the landing gear collapsed. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the horizontal stabilizer. The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during takeoff in gusting wind conditions, which resulted in a runway excursion and impact with sand hummocks.

#### **Findings**

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

**Environmental issues**Gusts - Effect on operation

**Environmental issues** Sloped/uneven terrain - Effect on operation

## **Factual Information**

## **History of Flight**

Takeoff	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Takeoff	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	65,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 1, 2011
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	October 9, 2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 694.7 hours (Total, all aircraft), 480.7 hours (Total, this make and model), 598 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 13.6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5.3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	Titan	Registration:	N49PD
Model/Series:	TITAN TORNADO II Undesignat	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2001	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	D98912SOHK0310
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 22, 2018 Condition	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	620 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
ELT:	C91A installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	912UL
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	80 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Page 2 of 4 GAA20CA036

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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No Obscuration; No Precipitation		

## **Airport Information**

Airport:	Marble Canyon L41	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	3603 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	21	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3715 ft / 35 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	36.810832,-111.644447(est)

Page 3 of 4 GAA20CA036

#### Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Nepomuceno, Eleazar
Additional Participating Persons:	James Brownwell; FAA; Las Vegas, NV
Original Publish Date:	May 21, 2020
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=100453

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 United States Code section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 United States Code section 1154(b) is available here.

Page 4 of 4 GAA20CA036